

What Is Claimed Is:

Claim 1. A method for the treatment of sepsis, inflammation or infection comprising providing to a recipient a physiologically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a molecule that targets SR-BI/CLA-1.

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Claim 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said method provides a treatment for sepsis.

Claim 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said method provides a treatment for inflammation.

10 Claim 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said method provides a treatment for infection.

Claim 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said molecule is a peptide or is a peptide composition having a peptide portion.

15 Claim 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said peptide or peptide composition effects LPS-uptake or LPS-stimulated cytokine production.

Claim 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said molecule is a peptide that binds to an anionic amphipathic α -helix of SR-BI/CLA-1.

Claim 8. The method of claim 7, wherein said peptide is composed solely of L-amino acid residues.

20 Claim 9. The method of claim 7, wherein said peptide is composed solely of D-amino acid residues.

Claim 10. The method of claim 5, wherein said molecule is a peptide composition and wherein said peptide portion of said peptide composition binds to an anionic amphipathic α -helix of SR-BI/CLA-1.

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Claim 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said peptide portion of said peptide composition is composed solely of L-amino acid residues.

Claim 12. The method of claim 10, wherein said peptide portion of said peptide composition is composed solely of D-amino acid residues.

5 Claim 13. The method of claim 1, wherein said molecule is selected from the group consisting of a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a viral fusion inhibitor, a negatively charged lipid that binds to CLA-1 with a K_d lower than 10^{-7} M; an anti-SR-BI/CLA-1 antibody, of fragment thereof that binds SR-BI/CLA-1, and a chemical substance that binds to SR-BI/CLA-1 with a K_d lower than 10^{-7} M.

10 Claim 14. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of sepsis, inflammation or infection comprising providing to a recipient a physiologically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

15 (A) a molecule that targets SR-BI/CLA-1; and
(B) an auxiliary agent, excipient, or uptake facilitating agent.

Claim 15. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said physiologically effective amount is effective for providing a treatment for sepsis.

20 Claim 16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said physiologically effective amount is effective for providing a treatment inflammation.

25 Claim 17. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said physiologically effective amount is effective for providing a treatment infection.

Claim 18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said molecule is a peptide or is a peptide composition having a peptide portion.

Claim 19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, wherein said peptide or peptide composition effects LPS-uptake or LPS-stimulated cytokine production.

Claim 20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, wherein said molecule is a peptide that binds to an anionic amphipathic α -helix of SR-BI/CLA-1.

Claim 21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 19, wherein said peptide is composed solely of L-amino acid residues.

Claim 22. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 19, wherein said peptide is composed solely of D-amino acid residues.

Claim 23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, wherein said molecule is a peptide composition and wherein said peptide portion of said peptide composition binds to an anionic amphipathic α -helix of SR-BI/CLA-1.

Claim 24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said peptide portion of said peptide composition is composed solely of L-amino acid residues.

Claim 25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said peptide portion of said peptide composition is composed solely of D-amino acid residues.

Claim 26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein said molecule is selected from the group consisting of a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a viral fusion inhibitor, a negatively charged lipid that binds to CLA-1 with a K_d lower than 10^{-7} M; an anti-SR-BI/CLA-1 antibody, of fragment thereof that binds SR-BI/CLA-1, and a chemical substance that binds to SR-BI/CLA-1 with a K_d lower than 10^{-7} M.